

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1.-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said body is obtained by providing an NBR polymer, an organic peroxide and a blowing agent, adding, to the resulting mixture, 1 to 100 parts by weight of a synthetic silicic acid serving as a reinforcing filler per 100 parts by weight of the NBR polymer, heating the resulting compounded rubber as a whole by use of HA heating and UHF heating in combination to cause vulcanization and expansion thereby providing a thick sponge having a homogenous cell structure, passing through press rolls, and cutting the resulting sheet stock into pieces of a given form.

8. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said body is obtained by providing an NBR polymer, an organic peroxide and a blowing agent, adding, to the resulting mixture, 10 to 200 parts by weight of precipitated calcium carbonate having a prismatic particle shape and a serving as a filler per 100 parts by weight of the NBR polymer, heating the resulting compounded rubber as a whole by use of HA heating and UHF heating in combination to cause vulcanization and expansion thereby providing a thick sponge having a homogenous cell structure, passing through press rolls, and cutting the resulting sheet stock into pieces of a given form.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The applicator according to Claim 7, wherein said applicator is a sponge puff.

11. (New) An extrusion molded foamed cosmetic sponge puff which comprises a body obtained by subjecting a compounded rubber to extrusion molding to form a molded rubber having a given shape, heating the molded rubber to cause vulcanization or crosslinking therein and stamping and/or cutting the vulcanized or crosslinked rubber into a foamed cosmetic sponge puff of a given shape, said body comprising an NBR polymer, an organic peroxide, a blowing agent, 1-100 parts by weight of a synthetic silicic acid and 10-200 parts by weight of a precipitated calcium carbonate having a prismatic particle shape, said parts by weight being based on 100 parts by weight of the NBR polymer.

12. (New) The extrusion molded foamed cosmetic sponge puff of Claim 11, wherein said compounded rubber is made of at least two compounded rubbers.

13. (New) The extrusion molded foamed cosmetic sponge puff of Claim 11, wherein the compounded rubber comprises a composition containing a polymer having a polar group.

14. (New) The extrusion molded foamed cosmetic sponge puff of Claim 13, wherein the polymer having a polar group is NBR in which the content of acrylonitrile is not greater than 30%.